

**BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
STATE OF OREGON
STEENS MOUNTAIN ADVISORY COUNCIL**

CHARTER

- 1. OFFICIAL DESIGNATION:** Steens Mountain Advisory Council (Council).
- 2. AUTHORITY:** The Council is a statutory advisory committee established under Title I of the Steens Mountain Cooperative Management and Protection Act (Steens Act) of 2000, P.L. 106-399, and Section 309 of the Federal Land Policy and Management Act (FLPMA), as amended, 43 U.S.C. 1739. The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) is subject to standards and procedures for the creation, operation, and termination of BLM resource advisory councils. Refer to the 1995 amended BLM regulations (43 CFR 1784) for specific regulations regarding: composition (1784.6-1(c)); avoidance of conflict of interest (1784.2-2); calls for nominations (1784.6-1(e)); notice of meetings (1784.4-2); open meetings (1784.4-3); records (1784.5-3); and course of instruction for members (1784.6-1(f)). The Council is established in accordance with the provisions of the Federal Advisory Committee Act (FACA), as amended, 5 U.S.C. App. 2.
- 3. OFFICIAL TO WHOM THE COUNCIL REPORTS:** The Council provides representative citizen counsel and advice to the Secretary of the Interior (Secretary) through the BLM's Designated Federal Officer (DFO).
- 4. DURATION:** Continuing.
- 5. DESIGNATED FEDERAL OFFICER:** The Council reports to the Secretary through the DFO. The DFO to whom the Council reports is the District Manager, Burns District, BLM. The DFO (or the DFO designee or alternate DFO(s)) will approve or call all of the Council's and subcommittees' meetings, prepare and approve all meeting agendas, attend all Council and subcommittee meetings, adjourn any meeting when the DFO determines adjournment to be in the public interest, and chair meetings when directed to do so by the official to whom the Council reports.
- 6. SUPPORT:** Administrative support and funding for activities of the Council will be provided by the Burns District, BLM (as DFO).
- 7. OBJECTIVES AND SCOPE OF ACTIVITIES:** The Council will serve in a solely advisory capacity to the DFO concerning the planning and management of the public lands within the Steens Mountain Cooperative Management and Protection Area (CMPA) as described in Title I of the Steens Act.
- 8. DESCRIPTION OF DUTIES:** Council duties and responsibilities are generally as follows:
 - a. Develop recommendations for the BLM regarding the preparation and implementation of the management plan for the CMPA. The Council shall utilize sound science, existing management plans and other tools to formulate recommendations to the DFO regarding:
 - (i) new and unique approaches to management of lands within the CMPA; and

(ii) cooperative programs and incentives for seamless landscape management that meet human needs and maintain and improve the ecological and economic integrity of the CMPA.

b. The Secretary shall consult with the Council as part of the preparation and implementation of the management plan.

c. Except for the purpose of long-range planning and the establishment of resource management priorities, the Council shall not provide advice on the allocation and expenditure of Federal funds or on personnel actions.

9. COUNCIL COMPOSITION:

a. Council members appointed by the Secretary will represent the following interests:

(i) a private landowner in the CMPA who represents private landowners in the CMPA (appointed from nominees submitted by the county court of Harney County);

(ii) two persons who are grazing permittees on Federal lands in the CMPA (appointed from nominees submitted by the county court of Harney County);

(iii) a person interested in fish and recreational fishing in the CMPA (appointed from nominees submitted by the Governor of Oregon);

(iv) a member of the Burns Paiute Tribe (appointed from nominees submitted by the Burns Paiute Tribe);

(v) two persons who are recognized environmental representatives, one of whom shall represent the State as a whole, and one of whom will represent the local area (appointed from nominees submitted by the Governor of Oregon);

(vi) a person who participates in what is commonly called dispersed recreation, such as hiking, camping, nature viewing, nature photography, bird watching, horseback riding, or trail walking (appointed from nominees submitted by the Oregon State Director of the BLM);

(vii) a person who is a recreation permit holder or is a representative of a commercial recreation operation in the CMPA (appointed from nominees submitted jointly by the Oregon State Director of BLM and the county court of Harney County);

(viii) a person who participates in what is commonly called mechanized or consumptive recreation, such as hunting, fishing, off-road driving, hang gliding, or parasailing (appointed from nominees submitted by the Oregon State Director of the BLM);

(ix) a person with expertise and interest in wild horse management on Steens Mountain (appointed from nominees submitted by the Oregon State Director of the BLM); and

(x) a person who has no financial interest in the CMPA to represent statewide interests (appointed from nominees submitted by the Governor of Oregon).

b. The Council will be comprised of 12 voting members distributed in a balanced fashion as specified in paragraph 9a. of this charter.

c. Members will be appointed to serve 3-year terms on a staggered-term basis.

d. The Secretary shall appoint one person, nominated by the Governor of Oregon, to serve as the State government liaison to the Council. The liaison will not be a voting member. The term of the liaison will end upon appointment of a new liaison, which may be made at an interval deemed appropriate by the Governor and the Secretary. However, the liaison's term will end upon the departure from elective office of the Governor who nominated the liaison. When this situation occurs, a new liaison nominated by the new Governor will be appointed by the Secretary.

10. ETHICS RESPONSIBILITIES OF MEMBERS: No Council or subcommittee member shall participate in any specific party matter including a lease, license, permit, contract, claim, agreement, or related litigation with the Department in which the member has a direct financial interest. As provided in 43 CFR 1784.2-2, members of the Council shall be required to disclose their direct or indirect interest in leases, licenses, permits, contracts, or claims that involve lands or resources administered by the BLM, or in any litigation related thereto.

11. SUBCOMMITTEES: Subject to the DFO's approval, the Council may form, by motion, subcommittees to provide input necessary to the successful functioning of the Council. Input by subcommittees will be presented directly to the Council for its deliberation and consideration.

12. QUORUM AND VOTING REQUIREMENTS: At least nine members must be present to constitute a quorum; to make a formal recommendation to the DFO requires agreement of at least nine members, as outlined in Section 132(c) of the Steens Act.

13. ESTIMATED NUMBER AND FREQUENCY OF MEETINGS: The Council will meet approximately one to four times annually.

14. ESTIMATED OPERATING COSTS: Activities of the Council will require an estimated \$80,000, which includes 0.50 Federal staff years support.

15. TERMINATION: The Council's charter will expire 2 years from the date the charter is filed, unless, prior to that date, it is rechartered by the Secretary in accordance with the provisions of Section 14(b) of the FACA. The Council shall not meet or perform any functions without a valid current charter.

16. RECORDKEEPING: The Records of the Council, formal and informal subcommittees, or other subgroups of the Council, shall be handled in accordance with General Record Schedule 26, Item 2, or other approved agency records disposition schedule. These records shall be available for public inspection and copying, subject to the Freedom of Information Act, 5 U.S.C. 552.


Secretary of the Interior

DEC 16 2009

Date Signed

DEC 23 2009
Date Charter Filed